



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/757,484	01/15/2004	Yi-Lan, Lin	BHT-3167-173	4178

7590 11/06/2006

BRUCE H. TROXELL
SUITE 1404
5202 LEESBURG PIKE
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041

EXAMINER

REGO, DOMINIC E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2618

DATE MAILED: 11/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/757,484

Applicant(s)

LIN, YI-LAN

Examiner

Dominic E. Rego

Art Unit

2684

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11-16 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kobayashi (US Patent #6,917,824).

Regarding claim 10, Kobayashi teaches a folding mobile phone (Figure 1), comprising:

a first housing (Col 3, line 61-67);

a second housing, having a pivot portion and hingedly connected with said first housing by said pivot portion (Col 3, line 61-67); and

a blocker selectively interferes with said first housing at a first brake location and a second brake location; wherein when said blocker interferes with said first housing at said first brake location, said first housing and said second housing are unfolded at a first angled, and when said blocker interferes with said first housing at said second brake location, said first housing and the second housing are unfolded at a second angle (Col 7, line 52-col 8, line 22: *Kobayashi teaches the first hinge unit 14 is capable of rotating the second housing 12 from the first angle position indicating the angle*

formed by the second housing 12 of 0 degree (the closed condition) to a predetermined second angle position indicating the angle formed by the second housing 12 of alpha (the opened condition). Further, the first hinge unit 14 is capable of keeping one of the first angle position, the second angle position, and a third angle position indicating the angle formed by the second housing 12 of beta. So foldable phone inherently contains a blocker selectively interferes with first housing at a first brake location which is second position and a second brake location which is third position).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-9 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, the prior art of record, specifically Kobayashi (US Patent #6,917,824) teaches a folding mobile phone (Figure 1), comprising:

a panel housing (Col 3, line 61-67);

a motherboard housing, having a pivot portion and hingedly connected with said panel housing by said pivot portion (Col 3, line 61-67); and

wherein when said blocking mechanism moves to said first brake location of said sliding track, said blocking mechanism produces a first interference in said pivot portion such that said panel housing and said motherboard housing are unfolded at a first angle, and when said blocking mechanism moves to said second brake location of said sliding track, said blocking mechanism produces a second interference in said pivot

Art Unit: 2684

portion such that said panel housing and said motherboard housing are unfolded at a second angle (*Col 7, line 52-col 8, line 22: Kobayashi teaches the first hinge unit 14 is capable of rotating the second housing 12 from the first angle position indicating the angle formed by the second housing 12 of 0 degree (the closed condition) to a predetermined second angle position indicating the angle formed by the second housing 12 of alpha (the opened condition). Further, the first hinge unit 14 is capable of keeping one of the first angle position, the second angle position, and a third angle position indicating the angle formed by the second housing 12 of beta. So foldable phone inherently contains a blocker selectively interferes with first housing at a first brake location which is second position and a second brake location which is third position*).

However, none of the prior art cited alone or in combination provides the motivation to teach a blocker, including a sliding track and a blocking mechanism; wherein said sliding track is mounted at said motherboard housing, perpendicular to a rotation axis of said pivot portion and including a first brake location and a second brake location, and said blocking mechanism moves back and forth on said sliding track to interfere respectively at said first brake location and said second brake location.

Dependent claims 2-9 are allowable for the same reason.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Claims 11-16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding claim 11, the prior art of record fails to teach the folding mobile phone, wherein said blocker comprises a sliding track substantially perpendicular to a rotation axis of said pivot portion.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ohtsuka et al. (US Patent 5,923,751) teaches opening and closing device for a portable telephone.

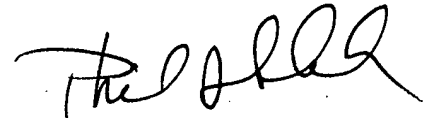
Yi et al. (US Patent #6,292,980) teaches hinge mechanism of portable phone.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dominic E. Rego whose telephone number is 571-272-8132. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am-5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on 571-272-7882. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2684

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Dominic E. Rego

PHILIP J. SOBUTKA
PATENT EXAMINER